

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1-17 (Canceled).

18 (Currently amended). An eating utensil ~~comprising as in claim 17~~

a handle,

a food-carrying platform carried by the handle and having a top surface and a bottom surface, the food-carrying platform having at least one tine and extending along an axis, and at least at least one convex, dome-shaped blunt extending radially from at least one of the top surface and the bottom surface

~~wherein the food-carrying platform has at least one tine.~~

19-25 (Canceled).

26 (Currently amended). An eating utensil as in claim ~~18~~ 17

wherein the projection extends radially from the bottom surface.

27-32 (Canceled).

33 (New). An eating utensil as in claim 18

wherein the projection comprises a pliable material.

34 (New). An eating utensil comprising

a handle,

a food-carrying platform carried by the handle and having a top surface and a bottom surface, the food-carrying platform having at least one tine and extending along an axis, and at least one blunt projection elongated along the axis of the food-carrying platform and extending radially from at least one of the top surface and the bottom surface.

35 (New). An eating utensil as in claim 34

wherein the projection comprises a pliable material.

36 (New). An eating utensil as in claim 34

wherein the projection is linear.

37 (New). An eating utensil as in claim 34

wherein the projection is curvilinear.

38 (New). An eating utensil as in claim 34

wherein the projection extends radially from the bottom surface.

39 (New). An eating utensil comprising

a handle,

a food-carrying platform carried by the handle and having a top surface and a bottom surface, the food-carrying platform having at least one tine and extending along an axis, and at least one blunt projection elongated traverse the axis of the food-carrying platform and extending radially from at least one of the top surface and the bottom surface.

40 (New). An eating utensil as in claim 39

wherein the projection comprises a pliable material.

41 (New). An eating utensil as in claim 39

wherein the projection is linear.

42 (New). An eating utensil as in claim 39

wherein the projection is curvilinear.

43 (New). An eating utensil as in claim 39

wherein the projection extends radially from the bottom surface.

44 (New). An eating utensil comprising

a handle,

a food-carrying platform carried by the handle and having a top surface and a bottom surface, the food-carrying platform comprising a concave bowl and extending along an axis, and

at least one blunt projection elongated along the axis of the food-carrying platform, the projection having a generally smooth bottom surface and extending radially from at least one of the top surface and the bottom surface.

45 (New). An eating utensil as in claim 44

wherein the projection comprises a pliable material.

46 (New). An eating utensil as in claim 44

wherein the projection is linear.

47 (New). An eating utensil as in claim 44

wherein the projection is curvilinear.

48 (New). An eating utensil as in claim 44

wherein the projection extends radially from the bottom surface.

49 (New). An eating utensil comprising

a handle,

a food-carrying platform carried by the handle and having a top surface and a bottom surface, the food-carrying platform comprising a concave bowl and extending along an axis, and

at least one blunt projection elongated traverse the axis of the food-carrying platform, the projection having a generally smooth bottom surface and extending radially from at least one of the top surface and the bottom surface.

50 (New). An eating utensil as in claim 49

wherein the projection comprises a pliable material.

51 (New). An eating utensil as in claim 49

wherein the projection is linear.

52 (New). An eating utensil as in claim 49

wherein the projection is curvilinear.

53 (New). An eating utensil as in claim 49

wherein the projection extends radially from the bottom surface.

54 (New). An eating utensil comprising

a handle,

a food-carrying platform carried by the handle and having a top surface and a bottom surface, the food-carrying platform comprising a concave bowl and extending along an axis, and

at least one convex, dome shaped blunt projection extending radially from at least one of the top surface and the bottom surface.

55 (New). An eating utensil as in claim 54

wherein the projection comprises a pliable material.

56 (New). An eating utensil as in claim 54

wherein the projection extends radially from the bottom surface.

57 (New). An eating utensil comprising

a handle,

a food-carrying platform carried by the handle and having a top surface and a bottom surface, the food-carrying platform comprising a concave bowl and extending along an axis, and

at least one blunt projection elongated along the axis of the food-carrying platform and extending radially from the bottom surface.

58 (New). An eating utensil as in claim 57

wherein the projection comprises a pliable material.

59 (New). An eating utensil as in claim 57

wherein the projection is linear.

60 (New). An eating utensil as in claim 57

wherein the projection is curvilinear.

61 (New). An eating utensil comprising

a handle,

a food-carrying platform carried by the handle and having a top surface and a bottom surface, the food-carrying platform comprising a concave bowl and extending along an axis, and

at least one blunt projection elongated traverse the axis of the food-carrying platform and extending radially from the bottom surface.

62 (New). An eating utensil as in claim 61

wherein the projection comprises a pliable material.

63 (New). An eating utensil as in claim 61

wherein the projection is linear.

64 (New). An eating utensil as in claim 61

wherein the projection is curvilinear.

65 (New). An eating utensil comprising

a handle,

a food-carrying platform carried by the handle and having a top surface and a bottom surface, the food-carrying platform the food-carrying platform comprising a concave bowl and extending along an axis, and

at least one blunt projection comprising a pliable material overmolded unto the platform and extending radially from at least one of the top surface and the bottom surface.

66 (New). An eating utensil comprising

a handle;

a food-carrying platform carried by the handle and having a top surface and a bottom surface, the food-carrying platform having at least one tine and extending along an axis, and

at least one blunt projection comprising a pliable material overmolded unto the platform and extending radially from at least one of the top surface and the bottom surface.